

Message Text

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22

ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 DODE-00 MC-02 EB-07

NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

ACDA-07 H-02 INR-07 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PRS-01

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DRAFTED BY PM/SAS: RWSMITH:LD

APPROVED BY PM/SAS: SWINSHIP

AF/E - MR. BARRETT

AF/I - COL. WIRKUS

EUR/WE - MR. SWIHART

EUR/EE - MR. SEYMOUR

PM/MC - MR. BRYANT (INFO)

L/PM - MR. BOREK

PM/SAS - MR. JAMES

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R 021510Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217855

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS; YO; ET; IT

SUBJECT: REPORTED ETHIOPIAN INTEREST IN ACQUIRING US ARMS
FROM THIRD PARTIES

REF: USDAO ADDIS ABABA 0431 AUG 76 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT REPORT IN REFERENCED
MESSAGE THAT ETHIOPIA IS INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING SURPLUS
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US ARMS SUCH AS 105MM HOWITZERS NOW IN YUGOSLAV INVENTORY,

AND THAT ETHIOPIAN OFFICIAL MAY HAVE VISITED ITALY AND YUGOSLAVIA TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER. OUR CONCERN IS BASED ON RECENT PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION AMENDING ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT REFLECTING CONGRESSIONAL DESIRES TO TIGHTEN USG CONTROL OF THIRD-PARTY TRANSFERS OF MAP AND FMS-ORIGIN DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES. WE MUST NOW NOT ONLY INFORM CONGRESS 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF OUR APPROVAL OF ANY REQUESTS FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO INITIATE SUCH TRANSFERS (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF MATERIEL-RELATED TRAINING), BUT MUST ALSO REPORT TO THE CONGRESS "IF THE PRESIDENT RECEIVES ANY INFORMATION THAT A TRANSFER OF ANY DEFENSE ARTICLE, OR RELATED TRAINING OR OTHER DEFENSE SERVICE, HAS BEEN MADE WITHOUT HIS CONSENT".

2. IT FOLLOWS FROM THE ABOVE THAT WE WISH TO AVOID ANY THIRD-PARTY TRANSFERS OF US-ORIGIN DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES BEING MADE WITHOUT US APPROVAL, WHETHER INADVERTENT OR OTHERWISE. WE WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE ANY REPORTS THAT ADDRESSEES MIGHT PICK UP REGARDING POSSIBLE ETHIOPIAN EFFORTS TO OBTAIN US ARMS FROM THIRD-PARTIES.
ROBINSON

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